

1-1 By: Guerra, Munoz, Jr. (Senate Sponsor - Hinojosa) H.B. No. 3714  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 9, 2013;  
 1-3 May 10, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Economic  
 1-4 Development; May 17, 2013, reported favorably by the following  
 1-5 vote: Yeas 4, Nays 1; May 17, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Deuell	X			
1-8 Hancock	X			
1-9 Birdwell		X		
1-10 Davis	X			
1-11 Eltife			X	
1-12 Fraser			X	
1-13 Watson	X			

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to the creation of the Office of Small Business Assistance  
 1-18 Advisory Task Force.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 481, Government Code, is  
 1-21 amended by adding Section 481.00681 to read as follows:

1-22 Sec. 481.00681. OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE  
 1-23 ADVISORY TASK FORCE. (a) In this section:

1-24 (1) "Small business" means a business that employs at  
 1-25 least 25 but not more than 250 individuals.

1-26 (2) "Task force" means the Office of Small Business  
 1-27 Assistance Advisory Task Force.

1-28 (b) The Office of Small Business Assistance shall establish  
 1-29 the task force.

1-30 (c) The task force is composed of seven members appointed as  
 1-31 follows:

1-32 (1) two members appointed by the governor;

1-33 (2) three members appointed by the speaker of the  
 1-34 house of representatives; and

1-35 (3) two members appointed by the lieutenant governor.

1-36 (d) A task force member serves a two-year term. A task force  
 1-37 member may be reappointed for additional terms.

1-38 (e) Task force members serve without compensation but are  
 1-39 entitled to reimbursement for reasonable and necessary expenses  
 1-40 incurred in the discharge of their duties.

1-41 (f) The task force shall meet as often as necessary but  
 1-42 shall meet at least once a year.

1-43 (g) The task force shall:

1-44 (1) advise and assist the Office of Small Business  
 1-45 Assistance with its duties under Section 481.0068(b) to the extent  
 1-46 that they relate to small businesses;

1-47 (2) advise and assist the governor, the lieutenant  
 1-48 governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives with  
 1-49 issues that relate to small businesses; and

1-50 (3) provide information in plain language to the  
 1-51 public on issues related to small businesses, including:

1-52 (A) environmental permitting and compliance;

1-53 (B) local regulations;

1-54 (C) construction permitting;

1-55 (D) the duties of the comptroller to the extent  
 1-56 that the duties relate to small businesses; and

1-57 (E) the formation of business entities.

1-58 (h) Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, the  
 1-59 task force shall submit to the legislature a report that:

1-60 (1) describes issues related to small businesses; and

1-61 (2) proposes legislation to assist small businesses.

2-1 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
2-2 of this Act, the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker  
2-3 of the house of representatives shall appoint the members of the  
2-4 Office of Small Business Assistance Advisory Task Force as required  
2-5 by Section 481.00681, Government Code, as added by this Act.

2-6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-7 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-8 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-9 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-10 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

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